

## Valerie Porter

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**From:** Penk, Miles A (DFW) <Miles.Penk@dfw.wa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 1:51 PM  
**To:** Valerie Porter  
**Subject:** RE: City of Issaquah SEPA Determination - Mine Hill Creek Plat - SEP18-00018  
**Attachments:** Mine Hill Plat\_Comments.docx; 920082\_Report.pdf

Hi Valerie,

Please see the attached comments related to the proposed Mine Hill Creek Plat project. Let me know if you have any questions and thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Miles Penk | Habitat Biologist  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Region 4, North Bend office  
Cell: (425) 677-1297

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**From:** Valerie Porter <Valeriep@issaquahwa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 9:54 AM  
**Subject:** City of Issaquah SEPA Determination - Mine Hill Creek Plat - SEP18-00018

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### External Email

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Hello,

The City of Issaquah has issued a mitigated determination of non-significance (MDNS) for the Mine Hill Creek Plat. Please see the attachments. Additional documents related to the project can be viewed on the City's Active Projects [Map](#).

This email is to inform you of the public comment period. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

**Valerie Porter**  
Associate Planner

City of Issaquah  
Community Planning and Development Department  
Office: 425-837-3100  
Direct: 425-837-3094  
[www.issaquahwa.gov](http://www.issaquahwa.gov)



State of Washington  
**Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Mailing Address: 16018 Mill Creek Blvd, Mill Creek, WA 98012  
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia WA

Date: February 12, 2021

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Miles Penk  
249 Main Ave S  
North Bend, WA 98045

Dear Ms. Porter:

**SUBJECT: MINE HILL CREEK PLAT**

On February 12, 2021, I received information for the project described above.

I am concerned with Mine Hill Creek's classification by the City of Issaquah as a Class 2 stream without salmonids, as stated in the SEPA checklist and Conceptual Mitigation Plan (CMP) prepared by Aquatica Environmental Consulting. In the CMP, a downstream culvert (FPDSI Site ID 920082) is cited as currently blocking fish access to the on-site portion of Mine Hill Creek. To clarify, human-made fish passage barriers do not constitute valid rationale to support non-fish bearing status. If fish have the potential to access the stream reach if these barriers are corrected in the future, the stream should be typed as fish-bearing. Even if infrastructure is currently precluding anadromous salmonids from accessing this reach, resident salmonids may still be present if suitable habitat is available. According to a 2012 habitat survey (see attached report for site 920082) performed by WDFW, there is suitable habitat available for steelhead, searun cutthroat, and resident trout for 1,004 meters upstream of culvert site 920082. Because of this, I request that the City of Issaquah reclassify this stream accordingly so that current and future salmonid habitat is and will be protected appropriately.

If you have any questions, please call me at (425) 677-1297.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miles Penk". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Miles" written in a cursive-like font and the last name "Penk" in a more straightforward, blocky cursive.

Miles Penk  
Habitat Biologist

February 12, 2021

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# Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

## Fish Passage & Diversion Screening Inventory Database Report Cover Sheet

The following report is extracted from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database (FPDSI). WDFW makes every attempt to keep these reports in sync with FPDSI; however, the dynamic nature of the data and workflows associated with maintaining the database may result in short-term differences.

Users are encouraged to contact WDFW to discuss appropriate use of the data and how we can assist with fish passage barrier removal or inventory. Please visit the Fish Passage web site for contact information at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/habitat-recovery/fish-passage/about>

### Disclaimers:

- Data presented here represent a snapshot observation of conditions in a dynamic environment that is subject to change. Fish passage data are also collected from a variety of agencies and sources. Therefore, WDFW makes no guarantee concerning the data's content, accuracy, completeness, or the results obtained from use of the data. WDFW assumes no liability for the data represented here.
- These data are not an attempt to provide you with an official agency response as to the impacts of your project on fish and wildlife.
- Note that some fish passage features, habitats or species may occur in areas not currently known to the WDFW Fish Passage division, and may not be reflected in this database. A lack of data does not necessarily indicate that a feature, habitat, or species are not present.
- Unauthorized attempts to alter or modify these data are strictly prohibited.
- Bankfull width measurements included in these reports should not be used for fish passage crossing design. They are solely for assessment purposes.
- The barrier status reported in this document is based on the swimming abilities of adult salmonids. Passabilities are a qualitative value, and should not be interpreted as a quantitative calculation. Please see page 1-4 of the Fish Passage Inventory, Assessment and Prioritization Manual for further clarification: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/02061>
- EXIF data presented with Image Reports may be erroneous due to camera battery failures and resetting of camera clock functions.

### Abbreviations:

Most abbreviations in this report are defined in the Quick Reference Tables of the Fish Passage Inventory, Assessment, and Prioritization Manual. Additional commonly used abbreviations are defined as follows:

**NFB** = no potential salmonid use, **BB** = both banks, **LB** = left bank looking downstream, **RB** = right bank looking downstream, **US** or **U/S** = upstream, **DS** or **D/S** = downstream, **WSDrop** = water surface drop, **BFW** = bankfull width, **OHW** = ordinary high water, **SLW** = scour line width, **CMP** = corrugated metal pipe, **Q<sub>fp</sub>** = fish passage flow, **V&D** = Velocity and Depth, **ROW** = Right of Way

The FPDSI database often uses default values such as '-99.99' or '-999' to represent null values.

## WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

### Site Description Report

Site ID

Project

#### Geographic Coordinates

Latitude (WGS 84):   
Longitude (WGS 84):   
East (HARN 83):   
North (HARN 83):

#### General Location

Road Name:   
Mile Post:   
County:   
WDFW Region:

#### Waterbody

Stream:   
Tributary To:   
WRIA:   
River Mile:   
Fish Use Potential:   
FUP Criteria:

#### Owner

Type:   
Name:

#### PI Species

- |                                  |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sockeye | <input type="checkbox"/> Chinook              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sea Run Cutthroat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pink    | <input type="checkbox"/> Coho                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resident Trout    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chum    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steelhead | <input type="checkbox"/> Bull Trout                   |

#### Associated Features

- |   |                                |  |                                    |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Culvert | <input type="checkbox"/> Dam   | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Barrier | <input type="checkbox"/> Diversion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Culvert Xing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishway         |                                    |

#### Location/Directions

US is on Mine Hill Rd and crosses under Wildwood Blvd and City trail.

#### Site Comments

10m DS to the confluence of Issaquah Cr.

Print Date: 4/18/2019

These data represent a snapshot of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's current records. Due to the ongoing nature of assessment and inventory of these features, these data may not accurately represent conditions on the ground, and are subject to change.

# WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

## Level A Culvert Assessment Report

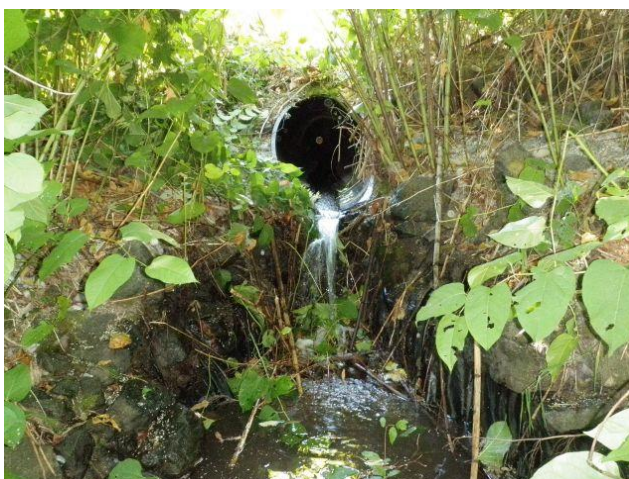
Site ID:	920082		
Latitude:	47.527127629	Stream:	unnamed
Longitude:	-122.038737689	Tributary To:	Issaquah Cr
		WRIA:	08.0194
		Fish Use Potential:	Yes

Data Source	WDFW		
Field Crew:	Dwight;Romero	Review Date:	9/5/2012

Culvert Details							Level A Parameters					
ID	Shape	Material	Span	Rise	Length	WDIC	Apron	WSDrop	Location	Countersunk	Backwater	Slope (%)
1.1	RND	PVC	1.03	1.03	84.40	0.02	NO	0.82	Outlet	No	0	7.42

All dimensions in meters

<b>Channel Description</b>	
Toe Width (m):	
Average Width (m):	4.10
Culvert/Stream Width Ratio:	0.25
<b>Plunge Pool</b>	
Length (m):	0.00
Max Depth (m):	-99.99
OHW Width (m):	-999.99
<b>Road</b>	
Fill Depth (m):	4.00



<b>Assessment Results</b>			
Barrier:	Yes	Passability (%):	0
Reason:	WS Drop	Fishway Present:	No
		Method:	Level A
		Recheck:	

<b>Comments</b>
US culvert has an attached standpipe with a trash rack on the culvert and standpipe. Concrete wingwalls and headwalls US. DS outfall onto boulders.

<b>Potential Habitat Gain</b>			
Survey Type:	RSFS	Spawning (sq m):	818
Significant Reach:	Yes	Rearing (sq m):	801
		Length (m):	1,004
		PI Total	6.61

Print Date: 4/18/2019

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## WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

### Habitat Survey Summary Report

Site ID: **920082**

Latitude: **47.527127629**

Longitude: **-122.038737689**

WRIA:

**08.0194**

Stream: **unnamed**

Tributary To: **Issaquah Cr**

PI Total:

**6.61**

Survey Type

Spreadsheet File(s):

920082.xls

#### Downstream Survey

Date:

Crew:

Length (m):

Downstream Comments:

Short distance to the confluence with Issaquah Cr. Stream flows as a pool and riffle over mostly boulders and gravel with a gradient = 9% and 50% canopy cover. Knotweed grows on LB and RB.

#### Upstream Survey

Date:

Crew:

Length (m):

Upstream Comments:

Stream flows from mixed deciduous ~60% canopy cover as a pool and riffle over cobble and gravel substrate. Gradient varies slightly around 12%. Stream transitions into areas with exposed bedrock then returns to a substrate of cobble and gravel.

#### Potential Habitat Gain

Lineal (m):

Spawning Area (sq m):

Rearing Area (sq m):

Distribution

- ☒ Anadromous  
☐ Resident Only  
☐ Unknown

Gain Direction (Resident Only)

#### Potential Species Benefit

☐ Sockeye / Kokanee

☐ Chinook

☒ Searun Cutthroat

☐ Pink

☐ Coho

☒ Resident Trout

☐ Chum

☒ Steelhead

☐ Bull Trout

Print Date: 4/18/2019

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# WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

## Barrier Priority Index Report

Site ID: 920082

Stream	unnamed	Trib To	Issaquah Cr	WRIA	08.0194
Habitat (H) Estimation Method			RSFS		

	B	H	M	D	C	Species PI
Sockeye			2		1	0.00
Pink			2		1	0.00
Chum			2		1	0.00
Coho			2		1	0.00
Chinook			2		1	0.00
Steelhead	1	594	2	3	1	1.65
Searun Cutthroat	1	594	2	1	1	2.58
Resident Trout	1	801	1	1	1	2.38
Dolly/Bull Trout					1	0.00
TOTAL PI						6.61

B = proportion of fish passage improvement (1, 0.67, 0.33).

H = potential habitat gain (square meters), spawning habitat for sockeye, pink and chum, rearing habitat for the rest.

M= mobility modifier (anadromous = 2, resident = 1).

D = stock condition modifier (critical = 3, depressed = 2, not 2 or 3 = 1).

C= repair cost modifier (<\$100K = 3, \$100K - \$500K = 2, >\$500K = 1).

Print Date: 4/18/2019

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# WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

## Image Report - Active

Site ID: 920082

Latitude: 47.527127629

Stream: unnamed

WRIA: 08.0194

Longitude: -122.038737689

Tributary To: Issaquah Cr

Fish Use Potential: Yes

### Associated Features

☒ Culvert

☐ Dam

☐ Natural Barrier

☐ Diversion

☐ Non-Culvert Xing

☐ Other

☐ Fishway



Image Name: 920082\_1.JPG, Date/Time: 09/05/2012 11:24



Image Name: 920082\_2.JPG, Date/Time: 09/05/2012 10:59

Print Date: 4/18/2019

These data represent a snapshot of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's current records. Due to the ongoing nature of assessment and inventory of these features, these data may not accurately represent conditions on the ground, and are subject to change.